

Application Serial No. 10/595,332
Amendment After Final dated March 15, 2010
Response to Final Office Action dated December 17, 2009

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheet of drawings containing Fig. 2 replaces the drawing sheet currently on file containing Fig. 2. In the drawing the German language legends have been changed to English.

Enc. Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants respectfully submit, contemporaneously herewith, a Request for Continued Examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

In response to the objection to the drawings, Fig. 2 has been revised to substitute English language legends for the original German legends.

Claim 5 has been amended to provide the appropriate antecedent basis.

Each of independent claims 2, 6 and 7 has been amended to call for a plurality of end devices of a single subscriber all having a uniform calling member that form the multiple-device configuration. For the reasons set forth below, claims 2-4 and 17 are not anticipated by Immonen and the remaining claims are not obvious over Immonen when combined with any of the secondary references cited by the Examiner.

The method defined by the claims as currently amended enables better optimization of network resources in a public telecommunications network. In mobile networks, a plurality of terminals in a multi-device configuration can be activated for outgoing or incoming calls under a single call number, and it is possible for the subscriber to use the terminals in parallel (e.g. car phone, mobile phone, etc.). Since incoming call requests are signaled to a plurality of terminals of a subscriber in parallel, the network resources can be unnecessarily occupied depending on the status, for example, switched off, engaged, etc., of the individual terminals.

The Immonen reference describes the principal of automatic call distribution wherein subscriber status information is stored in a control device (service control point). When a call is incoming, the information is checked and a call is forwarded to the subscriber when available. If the subscriber is not available, the call is placed in a queue until the status of the call subscriber changes.

The method as presently defined by the claims relates to a method for optimizing the use of network resources during switching of one or more calls to one or more terminals of a single subscriber in a multi-device configuration. Prior to the delivery of a call, the system statuses of the terminals of the single subscriber to be called, such terminals all having a common calling number, and the switching devices involved are determined using an intelligent call control system by means of database queries sent to mobility/profile databases that are associated with the terminals and the switching devices involved. The data relating to the system status of the terminals to be called is used to optimize call delivery in that only

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call attempts that have a promise of success and a corresponding assignment of suitable network resources are initiated.

The present system provides an advantage over Immonen to optimize use of network resources when switching parallel calls to common calling number terminals of a single subscriber in a multi-device configuration. This differs from the system and method described by Immonen. Independent claims 6 and 7 similarly define over Immonen. The secondary references do not supply what is missing from Immonen so as to render the claims obvious within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 103.

It is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner believes that further issues remain he is invited to telephone the undersigned at 260-460-1692.

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 02-0385, Baker & Daniels.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATION OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on: March 15, 2010

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JOHN F. HOFFMAN, REG. NO. 26,280

Name of Registered Representative

Signature

March 15, 2010

Date